

Ruth L. Kirschstein National Research Service Award (NRSA) Institutional Research Training Program (T32)

**PURPOSE**

To prepare individuals for careers in basic cancer research, clinical cancer research, and/or cancer research in the prevention, control, behavioral, and population-based sciences.

**ELIGIBILITY**

**Degree Type:** basic scientists, Ph.D.s, M.D.s

**Award Type:** institutional

**Career Stage:** mentored predoc, postdoc or junior faculty

**Other:**

- Only domestic, non-profit, non-Federal, public or private institutions may apply to provide research training through the T32 grant mechanism
- Trainees must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents of the United States at the time of appointment to the training grant award (see [program announcement](#) for definition of non-citizen nationals)
- Predoctoral trainees must be pursuing the Ph. D. degree or a comparable research doctoral degree. No more than 25% of the trainees requested in new applications may be predoctoral trainees. Continuing applications should strive to reach this percentage
- Postdoctoral research training is for individuals who have received a Ph.D., D.V.M., D.D.S., M.D., or comparable doctoral degrees
- The applicant institution must have a strong research program in the area(s) proposed with requisite staff and facilities. All mentors must have cancer related or cancer relevant peer reviewed research support
- The Principal Investigator of the grant must have the training and experience to appoint trainees and manage the training program according to official National Research Service Award (NRSA) guidelines

**FUNDING**

Period of Support: Up to 5 years, renewable

Direct Cost Max/Year: \$500,000

Allowable Costs:

- Trainee stipends (FY2003):
- Predoc: \$20,772.
- Postdoc: \$35,568 to \$51,036 based on years of relevant experience
- Trainee travel
- Training related expenses (FY2004): Predoc - \$2,200; Postdoc - \$3,850

**DETAILS**

An established investigator is the Principal Investigator/Program Leader of the Institutional National Research Service Award (T32). A T32 has multiple positions and provides stipends for predoctoral and postdoctoral trainees to receive didactic and supervised research experiences in preparation for careers in biomedical research. Predoctoral research training must lead to the Ph.D. degree or a comparable research doctoral degree. Students who are enrolled in health-professional training programs and who wish to postpone their professional studies in order to engage in full-time research training also may be appointed to an Institutional Research Training Grant.

Predoctoral research training must emphasize fundamental training in areas of biomedical and behavioral sciences. Postdoctoral research training is for individuals who have received a Ph.D., D.V.M, D.D.S., M.D., or a comparable doctoral degree from an accredited domestic or foreign institution. Research training at the postdoctoral level must emphasize specialized training to meet national research priorities in the biomedical, behavioral, or clinical sciences. In all cases, postdoctoral trainees should agree to engage in at least 2 years of research, research training, or comparable activities beginning at the time of appointment.

The T32 supports training under the special provisions legislated by Congress for National Research Service Awards (NRSA). The most distinctive provision is "payback," which requires that trainees pay back the Federal government either in time devoted to biomedical research or in like monetary value. Institutions must monitor appointments and terminations carefully during the course of this award.

Domestic, non-profit private or public, graduate-level educational institutions, which have, or are able to develop, the staff and facilities required for the proposed program are eligible. The training program director at the institution will be responsible for the selection and appointment of trainees and for the overall direction of the program. Trainees must be citizens of the United States, non-citizen nationals, or have been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence. These awards are not made for study leading to professional degrees.

Institutions may apply on behalf of the Program Leader for up to 5 years of support not to exceed \$500,000 in direct costs per year without special permission from NCI staff. The annual stipends are regulated by Congressional legislative language. There is one stipend for predocs and a range of stipends for postdocs, depending upon how many years of postdoctoral experience the trainee has (from 0 – 7 years). Allowable stipends often change with each Fiscal Year's Congressional Appropriation. All trainees must be U.S. citizens, non-citizen nationals, or permanent residents.

The T32 is not renewable.

#### **REVIEW CRITERIA**

- Distinctive nature of training program
- Background and experience of the Principal Investigator to provide leadership and coordination
- Quality of the objectives, design and direction of the program
- Track record in achieving objectives (renewal)
- Quality of faculty and their cancer research focus: minimum 50% of mentors have research support directly related to cancer remaining faculty have research support that is cancer related
- Recruitment, selection and track record of trainees
- Training resources and environment: institutional commitment to training and quality of facilities, equipment and space
- Minority recruitment and retention plan

#### **DATES TO APPLY**

NEW APPLICATION RECEIPT DATES	INITIAL REVIEW DATES	NCAB REVIEW DATES
January 10	May/June	September/October
May 10	October/November	January/February
September 10	February/March	May/June

#### **APPLICATION FORMS**

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/phs398/phs398.html>

#### **PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT (PA-02-109)**

<http://grants1.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-02-109.html>

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Stipend Increase

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-04-023.html>

Institutional National Research Service Award

<http://cancertraining.nci.nih.gov/research/basicphd/t32full.html>

#### **NCI CONTACTS**

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